

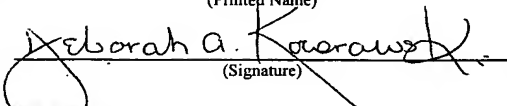


04-05-87 IAP3 HCC O PGT/PTO 04 APR 2006

Attorney Docket No. 026032-4945

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Metz et al.
Title: LOCKING DEVICE AND
HEADREST
Application No.: 10/549,955
Filing Date: 09/20/2005
Examiner: Not yet assigned
Art Unit: 3636

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
EV 625660076 US (Express Mail Label Number)	April 4, 2006 (Date of Deposit)
Deborah A. Kocorowski (Printed Name)	
 (Signature)	

Mail Stop **AMENDMENT**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL

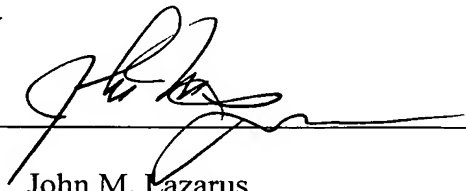
Transmitted herewith please find the following documents for the above-identified patent application.

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (3 pages).
- ☒ Form PTO/SB/08 (1 page) listing seven (7) references, enclosing copies of five (5).

Although the Applicants believe that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date APRIL 4, 2006

By 

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 26371
Telephone: (414) 297-5591
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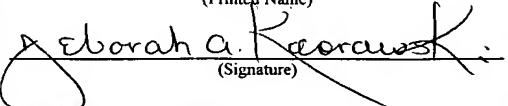
John M. Lazarus
Attorney for the Applicants
Registration No. 48,367



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to the Applicants in order to comply with the Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

A copy of each non-U.S. patent document and each non-patent document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the PCT International Preliminary Report on Patentability.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding International Application. A copy of the PCT International Preliminary Report on Patentability is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has been provided where readily available. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

The Applicants respectfully request that each listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

The following non-English language reference is listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08:

The abstract of German Document DE 196 30 473 A1 discloses:

The head restraint has two parallel guide rods, and locking elements with actuator devices. A single actuator is used to move two locking elements (2) between a position, in which the guide bars are locked, and a release position, in which they can slide or be removed. Each bar has locking notches, and the guide channels (1) for the bars have locking springs (4) to act as locking elements, and to engage into the notches. The actuator consists of a traction bar or pressure bar (5) with handle, coupled to the springs.

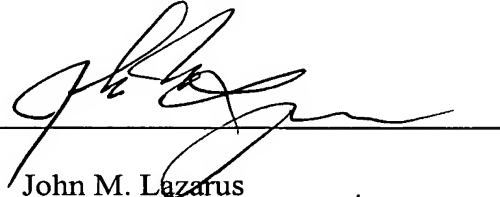
Although the Applicants believe that no fee is required for this Request, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Request to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Respectfully submitted,

Date APRIL 4, 2006

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By



John M. Lazarus
Attorney for the Applicants
Registration No. 48,367

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: April 4, 2006 (Use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
Application Number		10/549,955	
Filing Date		09/20/2005	
First Named Inventor		Daniel Metz	
Group Art Unit		3636	
Examiner Name		Not yet assigned	
Attorney Docket Number		026032-4945	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	4,671,573		Nemoto et al.	06-09-1987	
	A2	3,563,602		Toyota-shi et al.	02-16-1971	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Application Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Filing Date of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Serial Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A3	EP	0 916 549	B1	De Filippo, Emilio	05-19-1999		
	A4	EP	0 864 461	A1	Üstünberk, Umur	09-16-1998		
	A5	DE	196 30 473	A1	Schmidt, R.	01-29-1998		
	A6	DE	296 13 073	U1	Schmidt, R.	09-19-1996		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A7	PCT International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Translation), based on International Application No. PCT/EP2004/002701, date of mailing March 2, 2006 (7 pages).	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.